

**MESSAGE FROM
THE CHIEF JUSTICE:**



"Your service as a juror helps to assure all Arizonans the constitutional right to a trial by jury. Thank you for your support of the jury system, an important component of a free society."

ROBERT M. BRUTINEL

Chief Justice
Arizona Supreme Court

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"I consider trial by jury as the only anchor ever yet imagined by man, by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution."

THOMAS JEFFERSON

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**The Arizona Trial &
Digital Evidence Fund**

**FOR JURORS SERVING
IN SUPERIOR COURT**



THE ARIZONA TRIAL & DIGITAL EVIDENCE FUND

In an effort to reduce the financial burden on jurors who serve on trials in the superior court, the Arizona Legislature established the Arizona Trial and Digital Evidence Fund (ATDEF). The fund is designed to replace unpaid earnings for a juror who serves on a trial in superior court, from day one. A trial day is any day a juror is required to report to the courthouse for service.



COMPENSATION FOR ELIGIBLE JURORS

Qualified jurors who serve may be compensated as follows:

- \$12 county-paid jury fee
- mileage reimbursement
- earnings replacement or supplementation (up to \$300/day) from ATDEF

Depending on local practice, jurors may receive this compensation on a daily, weekly, bi-weekly, other periodic basis, or after jury service is completed.



JURORS WHO ARE EMPLOYED

The Jury Commissioner of the superior court will provide an ATDEF Juror Claim Form to jurors who do not receive their full earnings while serving as a juror. The Jury Commissioner will also explain the supporting documentation that must be returned with the completed form. Jurors requesting earnings replacement under the fund are required to disclose information about their regular earnings and any earnings they continue to receive while serving as a juror. Employer verification of lost earnings is required.

The Jury Commissioner will use this information to determine the amount of reimbursement a juror is eligible to receive from the ATDEF. A juror who does not agree with the Jury Commissioner's decision can ask to have the decision reviewed by the Presiding Judge.



JURORS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED

Jurors who are unemployed can receive ATDEF supplemental compensation in the amount of \$28/day. Receipt of spousal maintenance, pension, retirement, unemployment compensation, disability benefits, or other similar income does not preclude a juror from receiving this supplemental compensation.



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ATDEF

Arizona Supreme Court AOC-ATDEF Eff. 9-24-2022



EXAMPLES OF JUROR COMPENSATION

The superior court Jury Commissioner can determine the juror's eligibility and the amount of replacement earnings the juror is entitled to receive. The following examples illustrate how this amount is determined.

John normally earns \$40/day. His employer is not paying him while he serves on the jury in superior court. John will receive a \$12/day county-paid jury fee, and his earnings replacement from ATDEF will be \$28/day. This makes his total compensation \$40/day plus mileage reimbursement. The calculation is:

- $\$40 - \$12 = \$28$
- $\$28 + \$12 = \$40$
- \$40/day + mileage reimbursement

Molly normally earns \$185/day. Her employer is not paying her while she serves on the jury in superior court, but she worked alternative hours for her employer and was paid \$35/day. Molly will receive a \$12/day county-paid jury fee, and her earnings replacement from ATDEF will be \$138/day. This makes her total compensation \$150/day plus mileage reimbursement. The calculation is:

- $\$185 - \$35 - \$12 = \138
- $\$138 + \$12 = \$150$
- \$150/day + mileage reimbursement

Anna normally earns \$350/day. Her employer is not paying her while she serves on the jury in superior court. Anna will receive a \$12/day county-paid jury fee. Anna's daily earnings replacement from ATDEF would be \$338/day; however, the law limits ATDEF earnings replacement to \$300/day. The calculation is:

- $\$350 - \$12 = \$338$ (reduced to \$300)
- $\$300 + \$12 = \$312$
- \$312/day + mileage reimbursement